(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) The matter has been taken up with the Chinese authorities for providing hydrological information in respect of Satluj river on the lines of Brahmaputra river by setting up of a hydrological station in the upper catchment.

In this regard during the recent visit of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India to China in June, 2003, the Indian side also expressed its desire to expand exchange of hydrological information to cover the Satluj river as well, which would help us in forecasting floods and preventing damage to life and property. The Chinese side conveyed that they will consider the request and would make plans for developing the relevant hydrological stations.

Water Resources as National Wealth

275. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh Government has suggested that the Central Government should take up development of water resources as national wealth; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Payment of Salaries to NPCC Employees

†276. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the employees of NPCC are not being paid their salaries on time;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.